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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/769,774	02/03/2004	David Montague	A8452	9281
23373	7590	04/13/2005	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			WINNER, TONY H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3611	

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/769,774	MONTAGUE ET AL.
	Examiner Tony H. Winner	Art Unit 3611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2004.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-94 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) See Continuation Sheet is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1,2,5,7,8,10,11,19,21,34,40,42,60 and 80-82 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 6,12-16,20,22-27,30,47-49 and 83 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.   |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/19/04 &amp;</u> | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
|   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.                                   |

Continuation of Disposition of Claims: Claims withdrawn from consideration are 3,4,9,17,18,24,25,28,29,31-33,35-39,41,43-46,50-53,56-79 and 84-94.

***Election***

1. Applicants elect species I without traverse is acknowledged. Claims 1-17, 19, 20-23, 25-28, 30, 33-34, 40-42, 47-49, 51, 54-55, and 8084 were said to readable on the elected species, corresponding to figures 2a & 5. However, in depth review of the instant application shows that figure 2a and figure 5 are of separate species and that applicants have elected figure 2a for examination should the previous election requirement is in error. Therefore, claims 1-2, 5-8, 10-16, 19-23, 26-27, 30, 34, 40, 42, 47-49, 54-55 and 80-83 will be examined on the merit. Claims 3-4, 9, 17, 18, 24, 25, 28-29, 31-33, 35-39, 41, 43-46, 50-53, 56-79, and 84-94 are withdrawn from consideration. An action on the merits follows.

***Specification***

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "This invention relates to" "The present invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 3611

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-8, 10-11, 19, 21, 34, 40, 42, ~~60~~, and 80-82 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Montague et al. (U.S. publication 2002/0139217 A1).

Montague discloses a steering assembly for a bicycle comprising:

a. a front wheel fork having an integral upwardly extending steerer tube (6),

b. headset bearings (8 and 12) coaxial with said steerer tube,

c. a handlebar assembly including a stem (9) having a vertical member and

slideably mounted inside said steerer tube, the vertical member of said stem has a section with a non-round cross sectional shape (figure 1), said steerer tube being fitted with a restraining device (28) to permit axial movement between said stem and said steerer tube, wherein said stem is manually adjustable in height in one position of said restraining device and the steerer tube is fixed onto said stem when said restraining device is in a second position.

With regard to claims 2, 5, 7-8, 10-11, 19, 21, 34, 40, 42, and 81-82 Montague discloses all of the claimed limitations.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 6, 12-16, 20, 22-27, 30, 47-49, and 83 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Conclusion**

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Lin et al. ('683), Chen ('492), Lee ('806), Adams et al. ('479) are cited of interest.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Anthony H. Winner whose telephone number is (703) 306-5957. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 am to 6:30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris, can be reached at (703) 308-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

7. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information-Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

  
**TONY WINNER**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**

4/1/05